

London Underground Announcement

Walthamstow Central Stations

30th June 2015

I am writing with more detail on the Victoria line works planned for this August to support the increase in frequency and capacity on the line next year.

To reiterate, the current layout and condition of the track outside Walthamstow Central limits the frequency of trains we can run on this section of the line, so in order to run a more frequent service on the top end of the line, we need to replace the concrete slabs of the track-bed and the ironwork of the crossover track. Due to the challenges of installing heavy units in a relatively confined space and the need for significant testing, it is not possible to conduct these works during weekends or overnight.

The extensive works at the north end of the line are planned between **8 and 30 August 2015**; we have chosen August as demand is typically lower than average. Therefore there will be **no Victoria line trains between Seven Sisters and Walthamstow Central** during this period. Further, due to limited availability of space to turn trains around at Seven Sisters, we will only be able to run up to 27 trains per hour in the peak period which is a train just over every two minutes. This means it will be **much busier at peak hours than it is currently** (though the lower demand across the line in August will alleviate some of this).

We also expect other parts of the network to be busier during peak hours as a result, including the Central line between Leyton and Bond Street, and London Overground services that have connections with the Victoria line, especially those to and from Liverpool Street.

Alternate travel options

In order to minimise travel disruption, we will run two rail replacement bus services and one temporary additional bus route as detailed below:

- 1) *Replacement bus service A*: Walthamstow Central – Blackhorse Road – Tottenham Hale – Seven Sisters
Anticipated peak frequency: 24 buses per hour (*with standby peak extras*), a bus every three minutes
- 2) *Replacement bus service B*: Walthamstow Central – Markhouse Road (for St James Street station) – Stratford International – Stratford City Bus Station for Stratford station (*Monday – Friday only*)
Anticipated peak frequency: nine buses per hour (*with standby peak extras*), a bus every seven minutes
- 3) *Temporary local bus route 558*: Chingford Mount – Chingford Mount Road – South Chingford – Chingford Road – Walthamstow *Crooked Billet* – Billet Road – Higham Hill – Blackhorse Lane – Blackhorse Road station – *then non-stop to* – Tottenham Hale station – *then non-stop to* – Seven Sisters station (*Monday – Friday only*)

Anticipated peak frequency: 12 buses per hour, a bus every six minutes

The aim of route 558 is to provide a direct service to/from the heart of large residential areas of Higham Hill, South Chingford and Chingford Mount, connecting to working train services at Seven Sisters and Tottenham Hale, thus reducing journey times and interchanges.

Ticket acceptance on trains

The London Overground service between Walthamstow Central and Liverpool Street will provide an alternative rail route, and we have also agreed ticket acceptance with other train operating companies on the following routes:

- Abellio Greater Anglia: Liverpool Street – Tottenham Hale, Liverpool Street – Stratford and Stratford – Tottenham Hale
- Great Northern: Finsbury Park – Moorgate via Drayton Park, Highbury & Islington, Essex Road, Old Street
- Southeastern: Brixton – Victoria
- South West Trains: Vauxhall – Waterloo

Worksites in Waltham Forest

Walthamstow Central station car park

The car park will be closed in two stages – partially from 25 July to 6 August as we prepare the site and then completely to car users from 7 August to 6 September. The week at the end is to demobilise the site and return it to its current state.

The work itself will mostly take place inside the tunnel, although we will need to use the car park to access a shaft for the delivery of materials and to operate the replacement bus service. We will endeavour to keep noise to a minimum and have been liaising with residents living in West Central Apartments and local businesses that use the car park to ensure they are aware of the works and what they can expect.

We had previously thought that we would be able to keep the pedestrian walkway through the car park between Walthamstow Central and Walthamstow Queen's Road stations open, however it will need to be closed due to the volume of buses and construction vehicles in the area. Customers will be able to use the signed route through residential streets.

Ventilation shaft on Pretoria Avenue

The shaft is being upgraded to support the higher frequency train service. We have been engaging with the Stoneydown Park primary school, local residents and ward councillors to give them advance notice of the planned work. The upgrade will start on 6 July and will be complete by summer 2016.

Walthamstow Central station escalator refurbishment

The escalators at the Tube station have been put under great pressure by the increasing volume of passengers using the station and need to be refurbished to ensure they continue to provide a reliable service. To take full advantage of the

station being closed to passengers we are also planning to commence the escalator refurbishment programme during this period. Details are being worked through, and we will come back to you once plans are finalised.

Kunal Mundul
External Relations
Transport for London
197 Blackfriars Road
Floor 5 R4
London SE1 8NJ